

Focus on Fifth

Weekly News for Holmes Fifth-Grade Families

News and Events in the 5th Grade

September 28, 2015

www.op97.org

Important Dates

October 5 - Picture Day

October 15 - Outdoor Ed health form due

Week of October 19 - Parent-teacher conferences

News

Picture Day is next Monday, October 5.

This year's Outdoor Education experience will be held on November 30 - December 1. We will be travelling to the Lorado Taft Field Center in Oregon, Illinois. Permission slips and additional information will be distributed in late October. All students participating in this field trip must complete a double-sided health form. These forms must be turned in to your child's homeroom teacher by October 15. Copies of the health form can be found on the 5th grade wiki. If you are interested in chaperoning this field trip, please let your child's homeroom teacher know. Chaperones will pay the same rate as the students, approximately \$75.

Typing Practice

Students can log on to Typing Training from home to practice keyboarding skills. The Typing Training program is accessible from the District's website, and students should begin practicing keyboarding skills at home. The link is:

<http://www.op97.org/technology/Custom-Typing.cfm>

SPECIAL AREA SUBJECTS- holmesspecials.blogspot.com

Art

5th grade artists are off to an exciting start with their radial symmetry designs. They will continue to transfer images this week and begin to add color. Follow Holmes Art on Instagram [@artatholmes](https://www.instagram.com/artatholmes)
~Ms. Jones (kjones@op97.org)

Music

5th Graders need to bring in their **recorders** this week to music class. **They will not be able to fully participate in class if they do not have their recorders.** If they have lost or do not have their recorders they are \$6 cash or check to District 97 (to be given to Mrs. Karia). Recorders can also be bought at the school store online and when Mrs. Karia receives an email receipt she will give your student a recorder. Please do not buy a recorder from another source. If you cannot afford a recorder please email Mrs. Karia at akaria@op97.org.

We will be having a short **quiz** on Thursday/ Friday in class (9/31-10/1) on a few unpitched percussion instruments. The pictures/ names can be found on the 5th grade link at my blog.

<http://makingmusicatholmes.blogspot.com/>

Chorus

Chorus will be this Wednesday from 8:15-9. We will be working on our songs for November performance at the Oak Park Arms. An online permission slip will be emailed to you so make sure you have turned in your contact information by Wednesday, September 23.

Gold Belt/Recorder Karate

Gold Belt's first practice will be Wednesday at 11:45 and Recorder Karate's session will be Thursday at 11:45.

Spanish

In Spanish we are turning on our Spanish channels. We have started "Juan el Bombero." as a story.

Library

Reading Olympics personal and team contracts are due this Wednesday! Reading Olympics (RO) is an **extracurricular** activity in which students form their own groups of three to read nine pre-chosen books. To find out more about the competition and to see a list of the fall/winter books, click here: <http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/Reading-Olympics.cfm>

This week we will be starting a cross-curricular research project on freshwater and the human effect on the hydrosphere. Be sure to ask your student about the book they started reading this week, *A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park.

Questions about how library is structured as a class? Interested in volunteering in the library? Please email me with any questions! mmaneck@op97.org

Physical Education

International Walk to School Day is October 7, 2015. For more details visit: walkbiketoschool.org

Reading/Literature

Our Daily 5 routines will be in full swing this week! Students have been working really hard to practice all of the components in order to have this instructional time run smoothly.

In reading, we will build on our work with figurative language from last week in order to focus on some poems about the Great Depression. Close readings of these poems will help students to build background knowledge about the Great Depression in order to support our work with this trimester's anchor text, *Bud, Not Buddy*.

Please make sure there is a parent or guardian checking, and initialing, students' reading logs each night this year!

Writing

This week we wrap up our Interview Project. Students will have an opportunity to share the profiles they wrote with their classes. We will also begin narrative writing. We will draw inspiration from our Tall Windy field trip as we begin this genre.

Math

Last Friday, the students took a math quiz on writing numerical expressions and using mental math strategies to solve multi-digit multiplication problems. This upcoming Friday (10/2) we will be having another quiz so please make sure your child is reviewing their problem sets and homework for this.

This week, we will be learning about the partial products method and estimation.

Science

Were you able to view the supermoon and lunar eclipse last night? Weather permitting, we will be going outside again to take another round of shadow measurements. This week, we will be investigating the effect of distance on apparent brightness and apparent size of stars.

Social Studies

In social studies we are about to begin a book called [A Long Walk to Water](#). It is about a Sudanese refugees and their struggle to journey to safety. Before we begin the book, we will be learning more about the continent of Africa and Sudan in particular. Last Friday we were visited by Lynn Allen from the district 97's Multicultural Center. She gave us an overview of the history of Africa and highlighted some cultures found there.

Word Study

We will have our vocabulary lesson on Monday covering the directional prefixes *di-*, *dif*, and *dis* meaning apart, not, or in different directions. Students will become more familiar with these prefixes during or Word Study routines within Daily 5.

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack** - <http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

We're on the Web!

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

Ms. Cofsky
jcofsky@op97.org

Mr. Finkbeiner
mlee2@op97.org

Mrs. Lee
mlee2@op97.org

Ms. Manuel
mmanuel@op97.org